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Parking Lot

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Information Kiosk

Restrooms

Trailheads

Trail Junction

Roads

Pedestrian Trails

Mtn. Biking/Pedestrian Trails

On-Street Connections

Running Trail Connections

Amazon Creek

Ridgeline Park Boundary

Other Parks

Contour elevation
(100' interval)

1/4 Mile

1/2 Mile

N

Park Rules

- Park users must:
- Keep dog(s) on leash
 - Keep dog(s) under control at all times
 - Dispose of pet waste
- Prohibited activities include:
- Possession or drinking of any alcoholic beverages
 - Possession of glass containers
 - Discharging of firearms or use of fireworks
 - Camping
 - Operation of unauthorized vehicles
 - Dumping

Park users are responsible for following all park rules, including those not listed here. A complete copy of Eugene's Parks and Open Space rules can be picked up at 1820 Roosevelt Boulevard or found online at www.eugene-or.gov/parks.

The park is closed from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m.





Future Vision

In 2008, a group of community members convened to focus on the Ridgeline, creating the Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision. This plan, built on input from our local citizens and endorsed by Eugene, Springfield, Lane County, and many others, provides a description of the future of the Ridgeline trail and park system. To learn more go to www.lcog.org/ridgeline.

Protecting Natural Resources

The trail system takes visitors through parkland with wonderful examples of Oregon's native habitats, and also harbors rare species and habitats. Douglas-fir forests and mixed stands of big-leaf maple offer lush, cool experiences year-round. Oak woodlands, oak savannas, upland prairies and rocky balds are significant features of the Ridgeline Park system that are regionally very rare and have been identified as priority conservation areas by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Over 200 wildlife species use these habitats at some point in their life cycle, and they are graced with delicate wildflowers and grasses which contribute to their biodiversity.



Trail Descriptions

Blanton Ridge to 52nd & Willamette

This trail offers a secluded walk through a mixed forest of towering Douglas-fir and big-leaf maple. A high point near Solar Heights looks out onto town. Beautiful with winter snow and soothingly cool in the summer heat, the trail follows a gently rolling grade.

52nd & Willamette to Fox Hollow

This is the longest single segment in the Ridgeline Trail system. Passing through Mariposa Woodland on the northwest flank of Spencer Butte, springtime visitors are treated with abundant fawn lilies, flowering hounds-tongue, and delightful songbirds. The trail also crosses several small, spring-fed tributaries of Amazon Creek.

Junction to Spencer Butte Summit

This trail takes you through some of the oldest Douglas-fir forest in City ownership. Join the Spencer Butte main trail halfway to the summit at an opening in the forest canopy, where prairie wildflowers bloom.

Spencer Butte Summit – Main Trail

This is by far the most popular route to the summit of Eugene's favorite butte. Gradually climbing to the top, highlights include an artful dry-stone masonry causeway, mature Douglas-fir forest, and wildflower meadows. Past the tree line follow the blue markers to reach the top, where you will enjoy panoramic views of the Eugene/Springfield area.

Spencer Butte Summit – West Trail

This less-traveled route to the summit is perhaps the most challenging hike on the Ridgeline Trail. Starting out near the bottom, note the rock-lined paths built by volunteers nearly 40 years ago. As you ascend, you'll come to an area of exposed bedrock that can require scrambling and can be



Western Rattlesnakes

Occasionally seen during the warmer months near the rocky summit of Spencer Butte, the

presence of Western

rattlesnakes is a good indicator of the health of this ecosystem.

They are often heard before they are seen by humans. Upon hearing a rattle, the best

response is usually to become motionless. Once the snake has been located, it may be safe to

move away, or it may be necessary to remain still until the snake moves away. Please, give these snakes wide berth. Do not harass, harm, or kill these animals. This area is their home.

Mountain Lions

The vast majority of hikers never see a mountain lion, and those that do usually report that the cat vanished into the brush at the first sign of nearby humans. If you see a mountain lion, make yourself appear as large as possible (raise your arms, open your jacket, wave a big stick) and speak loudly and firmly or shout. If you have children with you, pick them up off the ground, but try to do it without crouching down or leaning over. Don't turn your back on the cat or run from it, but rather back away slowly and deliberately, always retaining your aggressive pose and continuing to speak loudly.



Spencer Butte



photo circa 1900 courtesy of University of Oregon



into the forest, following a sinuous path downhill to Spring Boulevard.

Ribbon Trail

Completed in 2009, Eugene's newest trail connects Hendricks Park to the rest of the Ridgeline Trail system.

The trail climbs from Hendricks Park up to 30th Avenue. Winter hikes offer views of Moon Mountain and the Laurel Hill valley.

Spencer Butte Challenge Course

Located just off the Spencer Butte Trailhead, the course features high and low elements, ropes, ladders, and forms built among the trees. The course provides unique team building in a safe, facilitated environment for groups of all ages and ability. For more information contact the Outdoor Adventure program at 541-682-6324.



Spencer Butte Challenge Course

A Little History

Eugene owes its forbears a debt of gratitude for their foresight in preserving Spencer Butte. At the time of its purchase, it was almost three miles south of the city limits. In 1937 former mayor and chairman of the Eugene Park Commission, F. M. Wilkins, said: "And remember, Eugene boys and girls will be climbing Spencer Butte 50 and 100 hundred years from today, to be inspired by looking over a city built out to the very foot of the Butte." In true Eugene style, a major portion of Spencer Butte was purchased in 1940 through a grassroots campaign that collected contributions no larger than \$5, in order to let everyone "buy a piece" of the Butte.

With the anchor secured at Spencer Butte, additional major acquisitions to the Ridgeline Park system were made between 1970 and 1995. In 1998, and again in 2006, Eugene citizens passed parks bond measures directing the City to acquire more acres of parkland in the ridgeline. Since the 1970s, the Ridgeline Park system has grown to over 1,400 acres with the help of the community, favorable transactions, generous donations, and the first Forest Legacy Program grant awarded in Oregon.

Trail Safety and Courtesy

- Know your hiking limit. Some trail segments are long.
- Stay on official, signed, gravelled trail.
- Pack it in. Pack it out.
- Wear appropriate shoes and clothing for the conditions: mud, uneven terrain, and slippery footing exist throughout this trail system.
- Use the right side of the trail except when otherwise designated.
- Always pass on the left.
- Mountain bikers should manage their speed based on sight lines and trail conditions and yield to pedestrians.
- Mountain bikers should give audible warning when passing pedestrians or other bicyclists.
- Clean your shoes thoroughly (soles, laces, fabric) before heading out to the trail to prevent the spread of weed seed from places you may have been before.
- Please do not pick wildflowers, or remove any vegetation or animals from the parks. The parks are their home, and we are the visitors.
- Report trail and trailhead issues to the Parks and Open Space Division, 541-682-4800.

Poison Oak

Leaves of three, let it be! Watch for poison oak – it is common along the trail. Oil is in all parts of the plant and when touched, may cause a burning, itching rash lasting up to a week. Wash yourself and your clothes thoroughly if you touch any part of the plant. Consider using cleansing products specifically designed to remove poison oak oil.

